REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	29 October 2002
Name of applicant/court:	New Zealand Customs Service
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Paladin Press Vol. 32, No. 1
Other Known Title(s):	Paladin Press Vol. 32 No. 1 The Extreme Survival Almanac
Director(s):	Not Applicable
Producer(s):	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Paladin Press
Author(s):	Not Stated
Format:	Magazine - Periodical
Country of Origin:	USA
Language(s):	English

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature:	Running time:
Trailers:	Running time:
	Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: No Excisions Recommended.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

Display Conditions:

That when the publication is on public display, the classification given to the publication must be shown on the publication or any package in which the publication is kept.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The magazine *Paladin Press Vol. 32, No. 1* is classified as:
Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

The magazine is a catalogue advertising books and videos available for order from American publishers. The books and videos advertised deal with a wide range of matters, for example self defence techniques, other fighting techniques, hunting, firearms manufacturing, lock-breaking, espionage and military history.

The publication offers promotion and encouragement of criminal activity to a moderate extent and degree. The larger part of the advertised material raises no concerns, and the advertisements are also largely unproblematic. However, criminal acts such as the making of weapons, drug dealing and violent crime are given support by advertisements that highlight the practical and instructional qualities of the books dealing with these topics, and by a political philosophy that expresses contempt for the legal framework. In its support for these types of criminal activity the publication goes further than the expression of political opinion. It also encourages these criminal acts indirectly, by providing access to the titles in question. Adults who choose to purchase objectionable publications accept the possible consequences of their choice.

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However, children and young people do not have the experience or maturity to exercise this judgement. A restriction to an adult audience is required in order to reduce the likelihood of injury to the public good arising from the availability of the publication.

The publication is committed to "free speech" and the dissemination of opinion, values that are enshrined in the New Zealand Bill of Rights 1990 as part of the foundation of a free and democratic society. Given the considerations above a classification of "Objectionable" is neither reasonable nor demonstrably justified. However, the likelihood of injury arising from the availability of the publication to children and young persons has been identified. The classification limits the rights of New Zealanders to access reading material of their choice but, in this instance, the restriction of the availability of the publication to adults represents the minimum interference with the freedom of expression consistent with preventing injury to the public good.

OFLC Ref: 201193